

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE BILL NO. 343

BY REPRESENTATIVE WILLMOTT

NURSES: Provides authority for registered nurses to administer anesthetic doses through perineural catheters

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:935, relative to the practice of registered nursing; to provide  
3 authority for registered nurses to administer anesthetic agents through perineural  
4 catheters; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 37:935 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §935. Anesthetics; authority of registered nurses

8 Notwithstanding any other provision in this Chapter to the contrary, a  
9 registered nurse may administer, in accordance with an order of an authorized  
10 prescriber, anesthetic agents to intubated patients in critical care settings, and may  
11 titrate and continue infusion of local anesthetic agents through the use of epidural  
12 or perineural catheters for pain management, excluding obstetric patients, in  
13 accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the Louisiana State Board of  
14 Nursing, in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

15 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
16 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
17 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
18 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
19 effective on the day following such approval.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Willmott

HB No. 343

**Abstract:** Provides authority for registered nurses to administer anesthetic agents through perineural catheters.

Present law provides authority for registered nurses to administer, in accordance with an order of an authorized prescriber, anesthetic agents to intubated patients in critical care settings, and allows these nurses to titrate and continue infusion of local anesthetic agents through the use of epidural catheters for pain management, excluding obstetric patients in accordance with the rules of the Dept. of Health and Hospitals and the Administrative Procedure Act.

Proposed law retains present law and adds authority for registered nurses to administer anesthetic agents through perineural catheters using the same guidelines included in present law.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 37:935)